

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
NOBUYOSHI KAKIGI ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
(This is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application :  
No. 09/755,171, filed January 8, 2001, allowed )  
December 10, 2003; which is a divisional of :  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/149,055, filed )  
September 9, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. :  
6,422,557 B1, issued July 23, 2002.) )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS ) February 27, 2004  
HAVING A PLURALITY OF SHEET :  
STACKING MEANS )

**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stahl', written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Submitted to the PTO: February 27, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03560.002242.2</b>		APPLICATION NO. (Div. of 09/755,171) <b>Unassigned</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>NOBUYOSHI KAKIGI</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>Concurrently Herewith</b>		GROUP <b>Unassigned</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,648,591	03/10/87	Osmera et al.			
		4,759,448	07/26/88	Kawabata			
		4,927,131	05/22/90	Hashimoto et al.			
		5,013,027	05/07/91	Furukawa			
		5,139,254	08/18/92	Yamashita et al.			
		5,172,908	12/22/92	Steinhilber			
		5,188,354	02/23/93	Emori			
		5,215,298	06/01/93	Stemmle et al.			
		5,318,401	06/07/94	Mandel			
		5,328,169	07/12/94	Mandel			
		5,346,203	09/13/94	Stemmle			
		5,358,238	10/25/94	Mandel et al.			
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		5,455,667	10/03/95	Hiroi et al.			
		5,752,697	05/19/98	Mandel et al.			
		5,777,882	07/07/98	Salgado			
		5,946,541	08/31/99	Kakigi			
		5,961,115	10/05/99	Blanck et al.			
		6,113,094	09/05/00	Horiguchi et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.